1873-74
(L.R)

File No: 10 of 73-74
Serial No:- 1-24

Sub:- Avenue trees adjoining Telegraph Wires

CIRCULAR ORDER SLIP (No. 14), NOVEMBER 1874.

1. The power of sanctioning permanent settlements in cases in which the proprietors have a statutory right to a permanent settlement, is vested in the Board of Revenue. The power of sanctioning all other permanent settlements, and all temporary settlements of which the annual jumma exceeds Rs. 25,000, is reserved to the Government. The power of sanctioning temporary settlements will be exercised as below—

If the jumma assessed does not exceed Rs. 2,000, and the term of settlement is for the period fixed for the settlements in the district,	By Commissioners of Revenue.
If the jumma assessed does not exceed Rs. 25,000,	By the Board of Revenue.
All other settlements,	By Government.

All orders passed by any authority regarding settlements will be open to appeal according to law, and to revision by superior authority without appeal, unless such revision by executive authority is barred by law. 8-11-74.

3. All summary settlements must be reported for the sanction of the Board. 8-11-74.

4. Date of order for the issue of process. 9-11-74.

4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9.

Chitpore, at the terminus of the Eastern Bengal Railway. 10-11-74.

Memo

1. The Government of India in the Public Works Department after consultation with the several local Governments and Administrations, promulgated for future guidance certain rules regarding the planting and cutting of trees, and the cutting of tree branches which interfere with Telegraph wire.

Resolution No. 74-87T. d/ 4th February/74-

2. On receipt of the Rules in the Public Secy's Office, they were republish-ed in the Mysore Gazette for general information and guidance.

Gazette d/ 3 March/73. Pages 784 & 785-

3. Mr. Owens Assistant Superintendent, Mercara Sub Division Government Telegraph Department, draws attention to Rules 5. 8. 9 and 11 of the Rules in question, and requests that orders may be issued to the Officers in charge of the Kundidroog, Ashta-gram and Coorg Divisions

that avenue and other trees are not to be planted within 25 feet of the Telegraph lines, and that trees planted & growing up immediately under or close to the wires are to be removed, and that branches of larger trees are to be kept 3 feet clear of the wire - otherwise, that permission may be given to him to remove them himself where necessary.

4- Copy of Mr. Owen's communication may be sent to the Commrs concerned for information & guidance, & he be informed that such has been done?

J Reynolds

24/8/74-

All Act kept that it be well indicated the exact limits within the rules referred

to him has
not been attended
to measures
shall be taken
to ensure conformity
with them by
the District
Authorities

V.R.
31/8/74

Memo II

1. The Assistant Superintendent of Telegraphs who was informed accordingly, now intimates that the Superintendent of Coorg was apprised by him of the exact spots where the Rules referred to had not been attended to, but no action has yet been taken, he therefore request

that that Officer may be directed to cause the trees planted within the last 5 years in the localities pointed out by him, to be removed. Also that the Deputy Comm[r] of Mysore may be directed to remove certain trees between Frazerpett and Mysore.

J Reynolds
18/9/74.

Send copies of this correspondence to Comm[r] of Astragram + Supt of Lines, calling their attention to the rules, + requesting that steps may be taken to remove the obstructions complained. If any trees threaten to become a permanent source of injury to the wires, which should be cut down.

Copy to Asst Supt, Telegraph Dept.

Coorg

Memo

Subject.

The existence of young avenue trees in many parts of the line of road between Mysore and Merkara declared to be injurious to the Government telegraph wires.

No 7229/277. dated 6th January 1874.

1. The attention of the Chief Commissioner having been drawn to the destruction of young avenue trees on the line of road between Mysore and Merkara, an enquiry was ordered on the subject.

2. From the correspondence submitted, it appeared to Sir Richard Meade, that the civil officers concerned had not their attention properly directed to the representations made by the telegraph officers in the manner described in rules laid down by the Government of India regarding the planting and cutting of trees which interfere with the telegraph wires.

Resolution No 74/87 dated 4th February 1874.

3. It would seem that in consequence of the omission of the revenue authorities to take the necessary measures, the telegraph Department availed itself of the authority delegated to it in section 9 of the said rules,

and

and cut down several trees without refer=
=ence to the District officers.
4. Whole lines of fine young trees, 4 and
5 years old have thus been recklessly
sacrificed. They were planted and
cared for by the villagers, and Colonel
Sankey said, it has been a matter
of keen regret to witness such
wholesale destruction.
5. The Chief Commissioner objected=
ed altogether to telegraph officers be=
=ing allowed to meddle with such
trees. This noninterference on their
part could only be enforced by
the Revenue officers undertaking and
satisfactorily performing the duty of
preventing roadside trees from becom=
=ing a source of injury to tele=
=graph wires.

No 191. dated 12th August 1874.

6. The Assistant Superintendent, Mer=
=kara sub-division, Government Tele=
=graph Department, drew attention
to rules 5, 8, 9, and 11, "regarding the
planting and cutting of trees, and
the cutting of branches which inter=
=fere with telegraph wires", and re=
=quested that orders may be passed
to officers in charge of the Nandi=
=droog, Ashtagram, and Coorg Divi=
=sions that avenue and other trees
are not to be planted within
twenty-five feet of the telegraph
lines, and that trees growing

up

G. R. S. 58]

Previous references.

L. R. 3970. 1873-74. ~~191~~. (L. R.)

File No. 10973-7

Serial Nos. ~~1-26~~ 1-24.

Later references.

L. R 21879.

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos. ~~1-26~~ 1-24.

M. ~~Part~~ B for nov, 1876.

SUBJECT.

Avenue trees adjoining Telegraph wires.

Indexed
W. Vaiyavanathan

W D 1351—GPB—20,000—13-12-13

about and thrown into the side drains without any intention of removal.
11. Colonel Sankey admits that in several instances trees were growing directly under the telegraph wires, and that it would be better if one or other were removed. He states that such reckless, barbarous works, as above pointed out, he never at any time witnessed.
12. He suggested that in many cases it may be desirable to remove entirely the existing avenue and plant goné stumps some twenty five feet further back from the line of telegraph posts.

No 2822 dated 10th December 1874

13. By order of the Chief Commissioner, copy of Colonel Sankey's Memorandum, dated 6th December 1874 was forwarded to Superintendent of Coorg, who was requested to hold an enquiry into the damage reported, and to submit results of the same at an early date.

No 1009 dated 15th January 1875

14. In this letter from the Deputy Commissioner, Mysore District, to the Commissioner Ashtag rand Division, he reported that the Commissioner's letter to him was the first representation which he had received on the subject of

the

the destruction of avenue trees by the telegraph Department, that 11 trees and certain branches of 52 trees which were reported to be likely to interfere with the wire were removed, that with reference to Mr. Quen's observations as to his ignorance of the rules, he pointed out that the whole spirit of those rules as laid down in Sections 1, 2, 3, and 9, show that the Civil authorities ought to be first consulted which was not done by Mr. Quen, so far as the Mysore district was concerned. Section 8 quoted by the latter applies only to boughs up to two inches diameter, whereas many of the young trees he cut down, were of much greater diameter. He states that the number cut down amounted to forty, which the villagers were at great labour in rearing at a cost, roughly estimated amounting to about 200 Rupees.

1st. Major Hill states that no remonstrance was received at the time the avenue was planted as required in Section 12 of the rules, and if intimation even of a week had been given to him, of what was intended as required by Section 9, sooner than

Reference to the District.
The Asst Commr adds "The
manner in which the Telegraph
lines were planted 4 or 5 years ago
has been the occasion of frequent
complaints of natives - These lines were
planted by the Villagers and have
been taken care of by them, and it
cannot but be a subject of deep
regret to see them destroyed
wholesale" -

2 This destruction of trees appears
however to have occurred prior to October
1874 when the subject was
written by the Secy in the Pol Dept
in his letter of that date. In
this Secretary, Col Lawley observes
that large numbers of the trees
between Ranipetah (Arcot Dist)
& Tiruppatur (Coimbatore) and those
upto Madras had been lopped
about by the Telegraph subordinates
in such a manner that they have never since
formed -

3 In reply to the inquiry which
addressed to the Asst Commr of
the Arcot Dist, and Supt of
Coimbatore, the former officer has
stated that no representation
on the subject was made to him
by the Telegraph Officials, before
they took the action they have done -
Major Hill & Mr Waters state that
trees to the No of 40 have been cut
down by those officials - and that
no explanation has been given
to them as to the reason
when first planted

[illegible] Telegraph
[illegible] has taken steps
[illegible].

Supt of Coms appears to
have acted on some representation
which has been made to him
by the Telegraph Dept., but cannot
[illegible] whether he
[illegible] has properly
carried out - Gen Meigs remarks
also comments strongly on the
manner in which the officers of the Dept
[illegible] mutilates the trees -
The Supt Chaplain considers
this, although there may have
been some remonstrance in Coms
in allowing that the order of
[illegible] Secretary, the conduct
of the Telegraph [illegible]
in [illegible] in cutting down large
[illegible] of trees in the Square directly
before the principal entrance to
the Patent Office, adjacent to
the Capitol or just opposite -
In a communication addressed
to this Office on 12 May 1874, the
Asst Supt states that he
deems it important to advise that
trees had been planted under
the [illegible], and he does [illegible]
impress upon [illegible] that if he could
in [illegible] have really his plans
where the Washington Parks,
measures [illegible] be taken to
insure compliance with the
rules by the Patent Office.
The Asst Supt [illegible], Dec'r 1st

12 Sept. and on the 19th the Chief Clerk sent the Commr of Police a copy of Corry's letter stating that branches of trees removed, & a copy of the order communicated to the Assistt. — Whether the proceedings taken by the Telegraph Dept in clearing the telegraph line, were adopted in Oct. or Nov. does not appear, but it is quite evident that sufficient time had not elapsed from the date of the order of June for the Police to have carried out effectually the Magistrate's Directions.

The Chief Commr observes further that the object of avenue trees would be completely lost, if, as would soon happen before long the Telegraph line has been so placed, that trees cannot be planted on the roadside except at such a distance from the road that they can afford no shelter to it. The Dept concerned that there can be no difficulty in shifting the Telegraph posts in such cases; the expense being borne by the District funds; and that alterations were really necessary, might be

Coorg

Memo

Subject.

The existence of young avenue trees in many parts of the line of road between Mysore and Merkara, declared to be injurious to the Government telegraph wires.

From the Superintendent of Coorg, No 361/215 dated 11th March 1875.

up under or close to the wires are to be removed. Also that branches of larger trees are to be kept 3 feet clear of the wire on permission be granted to him to cut and remove such trees where necessary.

No 3980/862 dated 8th September 1874.

7. In reply he was called upon to indicate the exact spots where the rules referred to by him have not been attended to.

No 293 dated 10th September 1874

8. He stated that two years ago, he brought to the notice of the Superintendent of Coorg, that trees had been planted immediately under the wires along the roads to Fraserpett, Veerajenderpett and Mangalore, and referred him to paragraphs 8, 9, and 11, of the telegraph rules, requesting at the same time that the obstructions may be removed, accordingly those planted under the wires during the past five years were uprooted. He also complained of the avenue trees in the Mysore District interfering very much with the wire between Fraserpett and Mysore at intervals averaging about a quarter of a mile.

No 4477½ and 4478½/155, dated 22nd September 1874.

9. The attention of Commissioner, Ashtagram Division, and the Superintendent of Coorg were drawn to the rules regarding the planting

and

and cutting of such trees which interfere with wires, and which were promulgated by the Government of India and republished in the Local Gazette, dated 3rd " March 1873, pages 599, 600, and requested that steps should be taken to remove such obstructions and if any trees threaten to become a permanent source of injury to the wires the should be cut down. A copy of this communication was sent to the Assistant Superintendent, Government Telegraph Department, Merkara.

Camp Merkara. dated 6th " December 1874. 10. The Secretary. D. P. W. at this time reported that notwithstanding the stringent orders issued by him on the subject of lopping avenue trees he found that no end of promising young trees between Periapatam, Fraserpett and almost up to Merkara had just then been hacked about in such a manner by the telegraph subordinates, that they could never recover their forms, that a large number of trees had been chopped down to stumps, that branches of others had simply a chop given them on the upper side and torn down, split up half through, the debiris being strewn about

the Chief Commr's information,
with a view to the requisite funds
being placed at the disposal of
of the Telegraph Department
for the execution of the
work.

21/8/75

I beg to refer to the marginal
note made by me in the Dispatch
letter - Col Harry seems to
have accepted Mr Orr's explanation
but it is to be expected that the
points to which reference was
made in the Chief Commr Proceedings
will be observed when he shall
report the completion of the
Trades, & then "Security" planted
and to the Public of the people
& "completed" Mean - The
allegation upon the Telegraph
Officers was that they had
stopped a Check on Branches
of large Amounts, before they
had been given in the case of
Mayne Out, & then when
Explanations complied with.
If the Chief Commr approves, order
being taken to the Appeal on
the letter and the Dept Commr of
Mayne & Dist Outreach - a letter upon
of Comy regarded to Subsidiary
Establishments of the Insular Telegraph
Where the removal of the telegraph
wires will be requisite - Such
Instance by pen to Board as
with Case place before Mayne
the Head of the Insular Telegraph
E/8

Approved
23/8

P.T.C

(Contd)

10. In an Order* communi cated to the Commrs. of Divisions, Supt. of Coorg, and the Dy. Commr. Mysore District, it was observed by the Offg. Ch. Commr. that Mr. Asstt. Supt. Owens' explanation* did not meet the points to which reference was made in the previous order on the subject.* Mr. Owens, it was observed, alluded throughout to trees "recently planted". But the allegations against the Telegraph Officials were, that they had lopped & hacked the branches of large avenue trees, before time had been given, in the case of the Mysore Distt, to have their requisition complied with.

* No. 333-71 dy 24th Aug. 75

* Vide para 5. above.

* — do — do — 1 — do

11. The Dy. Commrs of the several Distts and the Supt. of Coorg were requested to submit statements giving particulars as to the precise localities where the removal of the Telegraph wires will be requisite, to

such

such a distance only from the road, as will place them beyond the reach of avenue trees.

12. The Secretary to the Offg. Ch. Commr. P.W.D has now transferred, "by order", certain correspondence from the Supt. of Coorg relative to the removal of telegraph posts, on the line between Mercara & Fraserpett, which interfere with the avenue trees.

13. The Supt. of Coorg submits * for acceptance a Notification of Sanction for Rs 41-03 — for carrying out the above work, as detailed in the accompanying Memo, with the exception of Nos 2 & 7, to which the Ass. Supt. Teleg. Departt objects *. This officer further complains that fresh avenue trees are being planted on the line of old trees within the prescribed limit of distance from the telegraph wire, and requests that this may be put a stop to.

14. The Superintendent adds, that should the present Estimate be

* No 158 dy 19th Novr 1875.

No 250 dy 29 Sep. 75.

be approved, the lines on
the Cannanore & Sumpagi
boats will be inspected
and reported on.

W. Mitchell

Copy Supt. to Pass
6.12.75.
2 of the Order
by Augt and Observe that
List of a Mechanical D
& Pensioner Shearer, Who
Volunteered to Proceed
in All Cases to Copy

[illegible]

Coorg.

Memo. No. 2.
/ Continued /.

The existence of young avenue trees in many parts of the line of road between Mysore and Mercara, declared to be injurious to the Government Telegraph wires.

Coorg

Memo / Continued /

Subject.

The existence of young avenue trees in many parts of the line of road between Mysore and Mercara, declared to be injurious to the Government Telegraph wires.

No 113– Genl 16, dy, 27th May 1875.

1. In the Order* passed on the subject, the Offg Chief Commr., after reviewing the principal points contained in the correspondence submitted, held,* that though there may may have been some remissness in Coorg in seeing that the orders of Government were duly observed, yet the conduct of the subordinates of the Telegraph Department in cutting down large numbers of trees in the Mysore Distt / without previous intimation to the Distt / officer, admitted of no excuse or justification. It was uncertain whether the clearing of the line by the Telegraph Department was adopted in October or November, but "it was quite evident* that sufficient time had not elapsed to allow of the orders issued from this office being carried into effect in the Meysore Distt /."

Vide Para 6 of the above.

Vide Para 7 + do —

2. It was also observed,* that from the papers submitted, the offg Chief Commr. noted, that the telegraph line has been so placed, in many instances, that trees cannot be planted except at a distance from the road, that when grown, they can afford no shelter to it. The offg. Chief Commr. therefore thought, that the Telegraph posts may be shifted where really necessary, the expenses being borne, if requisite, by the Distt/ Funds, & the alterations being carried out by the Revenue officers & the local Telegraph officials in concert. The Director General of Telegraphs in India, was also to be addressed on the point, with a view to some such measure as that proposed above being adopted.

* Vide Para 8

3. Copy of the Proceedings noted above was forwarded* to him accordingly, and his views, on the proposal for shifting the line of Telegraph posts, wherever necessary, were asked for.

* No 114-17 dy 24th May 1875.

4. He now submits* an expression of his opinion on the suggestion made, and states that when trees or branches of trees are, or are likely to come into contact, with Telegraph wires causing interruption to communication, the circumstances of the position do not admit of delay, that, in other matters would be of no importance.

* No 1622 C/T. dy. 10th Aug. 1875. * /with reference to para 7 of the order/

Memo:-

My attention has been drawn to the restriction of the Journey allowance here in every part of the line of road between Agra and Secunderabad, has engaged my consideration. I am ordered to state as to the causes of the grant not having been applied here from the time it has been sanctioned, that the Civil Officers concerned have failed to pay due attention to the Instructions of the Govt. Officers made as prescribed in the Rules laid down by the Govt. of India* regarding the planting & cutting of trees, and the cutting of Kos-Minars. Which subject has been with the Govt. Officers and that the last has been communicated lately of the unfortunately delayed state in which of the Rules to carry the trees with. not explained to these Officers.-

2. The particulars mentioned which shall have

The Dy Comr. begs to the Capt. of Coorg

* In Resolution No. 74-573. dy - July 4th 1874.

Dec. 31, 1924

Genl 187½. No 7229
277

From

To The Comm Ashtagram Div
& the 2 Asst Comms & Supdt Coorg.

Dated 6 January.

Despatched 8 ——.

Received 14 " "

ENCLOSURES NO.

General No. 7229 } 187 4.75.
No. 277

Drawing attention to the necessity of
preventing roadside avenues from
becoming a source of injury to the
Telegraphic wires.—

No 7229
G 277

Mysore Chief Comrs Office
Camp Kodlipett 6th Jany 1875

To

The Commissioner
Ashtagram Division

Sir.

I am desired by the Chief Commissioner to state that his attention having been drawn to the destruction of the young avenue trees in many parts of the line of road between Mysore & Mercara an enquiry was ordered to be instituted as to the causes of the same but from the correspondence submitted, it appears to him that the Civil Officers concerned have failed to pay due attention to the representations

The Deputy Comm^r of Mysore.
The Superintendent Coorg.

the Telegraph officers
in the Mysore
made, as prescribed in
the Rules laid down by
the Govt of India* regarding
the planting & cutting of
trees & ~~of tree branches~~
which interfere with
the Telegraph wires. ~~That~~
~~he has in consequence~~
availed himself of the
authority delegated to
him in section 9 of the Rules
to cut the trees without
reference to these officers.

2. The reckless man-
ner in which whole lines
of fine young trees of
4 or 5 years old have
been thus sacrificed is,
Sir Richard Meade thinks,
most painful to notice.
These trees were planted
by the Villagers & have
been taken care of by them

* In Resolution No 74-87 T.
Dated 4th February 1874.

Lopping of Branch Trees by the Telegraph Dept

The unauthorised and arbitrary proceedings of the Telegraph Department in the above matter have frequently formed the subject of complaint and have already been noticed by the Deputy Commissioner in his Proceedings No 113 dated 27th Mar/75-76

On the 27th March Captain Fraser again reported that ~~in the~~ the branches of the trees on the Gya Road had been lopped to an unnecessary extent the branches having been cut off close to the trunk although the wire was 30 ft and more from the stem. I then directed that the Officer in charge of the Telegraph should be written to on the subject. His reply is just up, in which he denies that the trees have been cut so as to disfigure them, or that they have been unnecessarily cut, or to any great extent.

Captain Bowen has since personally inspected the trees, and reports as follows. "The trees have been lopped most recklessly, and the Baldwell was quite justified in bringing the matter to notice. A thinning of the branches over hanging or growing close up to the wire was clearly

needed but there was no occasion
in such wanton disfigurement."

I myself noticed some young trees
that had been cut down & within
three or four feet of the ground, and
made some inquiries about it but not
any result. It did not strike me
it had been done by the Telegraph
Dept, and I had assumed it to be vandal
mischief on the part of some one going
along the road, but I may say now this
must have been done by the workers of the
Telegraph Dept.

It appears intolerable that this
Dept should be permitted to act as
despotic as all rules and orders on the
subject, and wantonly spoil and
destroy what it has taken another
Dept so much time & trouble to open
As a rule I believe there is no sufficient
reason why the wire should be placed
in such a position as to render it liable
to the suspicion of the ignorant Public.

Yours

16/5/76

No. 191

812

To

The Commissioner

of Mysore & Coorg.

Dated Merean the 12 of Augt. 1874.

Sir

I have the honor to draw your attention to Rules 5, 8, 9 & 11 of the "Rules regarding the planting and cutting of trees and the cutting of branches which interfere with Telegraph wires" and to request that orders may be issued to the Officers in charge of the Nundidroog, Astragam and Coorg Divisions that Beenee & other trees are not to be planted within 25 ft of the Telegraph lines, and that trees planted and growing up immediately under or close to the wires are to be removed, and that branches of larger trees are to be kept 8 ft clear of the wire or

Permission given to me to cut & remove trees where necessary.

I have the Honor to be
Sir
Your Obed^{t} Serv^{t}

John Owens
Ass^{t} Eng^{r} Mercara Sub Div^{n}
Gov^{t} Telegraph Dep^{t}

GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

FROM The Ass^{t} Eng^{r} Mercara Sub Div^{n}

To The Commissioner of Mysore & Coorg

Dated 12 Aug^{t} 74

Recd.

No. 191

Encs.

Index No.

ABSTRACT.

PRECIS.

Concerning the cutting & planting of Avenue trees

562

(P. 121)—Govt. Tel. Press,—15,000,—25-4-73.

S/
A-72

H. C. C. Office
Bangalore 31st August 1874
Rec'd 1st Sept. 74.
No 3980
1862

To
The Asst. Supt
Madras Div
Supt. Telegraphs Dept.

Sir,

In reply to your letter
No 1691 of the 12th instant,
I am directed to state
that if you will be so good
as to indicate the exact
spots where the rules
referred to by you have
not been attended to,
measures will be taken
to ensure compliance
with them by the District
Authorities.

I have &c.

Sd/

Supt.

From

The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore.

To

Dated

Despatched 25 Sept

Received

ENCLOSURES NO.

General No. / *No.* } 187

9
A-72

Pg. 433
84

1874.

From The Asst. Supt.
To Mercara Sub Div.
Telegraph Depts.

Dated 10th Sept. 1874
Despatched
Received 14

ENCLOSURES NO.

General No.
No. 2493.

Pointing out that
avenue trees are planted
along the roads to Trasurpet
Veerajenderpet & Mangalore
under Telegraph wires &c.

& it cannot, but be a subject for keen regret to see them destroyed in a wholesale manner, as has been the case.

3. The Chief Comm^{r} objects altogether to any Telegraph officers being allowed to meddle with such trees at all, but if the officers, whose duty it is to see that the Rules laid down by the Govt of India on the subject are duly complied with, will not attend to the representations of the Telegraph Deptt on the subject, the latter can hardly be blamed for doing what the Rule authorize its doing.

4. I am to add that Sir Richard Temple

considers it a most serious reproach to the officers concerned that such a result should in this instance have occurred through want of due attention on their part, & he begs to impress on all District officers under this administration, that it is their imperative duty to adopt the measures necessary to prevent direct interference of any sort on the part of Telegraph officers with the road avenues in Mysore or Coorg, & that he expects that such will be done in future.

I have &c

Offg Secretary.

Copies to the Commrs of Bangalore & Malabar & the Supdt of Coorg.

H.7230/D 986

N 7231/0571

7232/488

1874. Coorg No. 4478½
936

From

To The Commissioner of
Ashtagram
Superintendent Coorg

Dated 22d September 1874.

Despatched

Received 26th

Regd 26

ENCLOSURES NO.

	×	×
General No.	4477½	4478½
No.	1155	936

Forwards for information Copy of the Correspondence regarding the topping branches of trees which interfere with Telegraph wires and requests that steps may be taken to remove the obstructions complained of

No. 4477.
G. 155.

No. 4478.
G. 936.

Chief Commr's Office
22nd September 1874

The Commissioner &c. &c.
&
Superintendent of Coorg.

Sir,

I am forwarding for your information copy of the marginally noted correspondence, I am directed to draw your attention to the "Rules regarding the planting & cutting of trees which interfere with Telegraph wires," promulgated with the Resolution of the Govt of India, and republished in the Mysore Gazette of the 3rd March 1873 - pages 784 & 783, and to request that steps may be taken to remove the obstruction complained

From Ass't Supdt Mercara Sub-Div. Govt Tel. Dept's No. 1918 of 12th Aug't/74
To —— do —— 3980/862 of 31st Aug't-74
From —— do - 2938 of the 10th Sept'r 1874

of -

G.

Sd

2- If any trees threaten to become a permanent source of injury to the Telegraph wires, they should be cut down.

I have &c

J R

Offg Secy

Ltr 4429/74
Dft 6648/74

Copy to the Asst Supt of the Govt Telegraph Dept Queensland Sub-division with reference to his No. 293 of the 10th Sept 1874.

J R

Offg Secy

Folio

22.9.74

For the orders of the Chief Commissioner

I wish to bring to the notice of the Chief Commissioner that notwithstanding the strictest orders issued by him on the subject of Planting Avenue trees I found two end of Savannah Grand trees between Peninsulatum - Fraserpett and almost all to Mysore have just now been hacked about in such a manner by the Telegraph Subordinates that they can never recover their form — Large numbers of the trees have wantonly been Chopped down to a Stumps, and the branches of others simply given a Chop on the Western side and torn down splitting them half through, the debris being strewn about, and often thrown into our side drains without

deservedly any consideration as regards their removal

I have never seen such reckless barbarous work

It may be true that in several instances the trees were growing so directly under the telegraph wire that it would perhaps be better if one or other were removed but this in no wise I consider excuses (1) the breach of the regulations in the Schedule of Wayleaves, nor (2) the unallowed barbarity with which the trees have been treated

The pruning of avenues has been undertaken and carried on by this Company with much trouble and Expense by both our own and Personal Department — and the

No. 293

FROM

The Assistant Superintendent

Mercara Sub Dn Govt Tel. Dept

To

The Commissioner

of Mysore and Coorg

Dated Mercara the 10th of September 1874.

SIR,

In reply to your letter No. 3980/862 of 31st ultimo I have the honor to state that two years ago I brought to the notice of the Superintendent of Coorg that trees had just been planted immediately under the Telegraph wires along the roads to Fraserpett, Verrajendrapet and Mangalore and on 12th ultimo. I brought to his notice paras 8 & 9 & 11 of the rules and requested he would order his Officers to remove the obstructions &c or grant permission to me to do the same after which on 17th August I pointed out the localities where the trees were likely to interfere; I request he may be requested to attend to the rules for planting of trees near the Telegraph lines and be ordered to have those planted under the wire within the last 5 years removed.

2 I beg also to inform that the Dy Commissioner Mysore District does not appear to be acquainted with the rules, as he has written to me about Cutting the trees. In his Division avenue trees interfere with the wire between Fraserpett & Mysore at intervals averaging about ½ mile.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obt Servant.

John Overs –

Asst Supt Mercara Sub Dn

1874.

GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

FROM Mr West Supt
Newcastle

To The Superintendent
Malabar & Ceylon

Dated 10 Sept 74

Recd.

No. 273

Encs.

Index No.

ABSTRACT.

PRECIS.

Requesting he will call the attention of Division Officers to the rules for planting trees near the Telegraph wire

(P. 121 A.)—Govt. Tel. Press,—5,000,—10-11-73.

Memo: by Col: Stanley R.E. Chief Engr
of Mysore dated Camp Mercara 6th Dec:
1874 bringing to notice the reckless & barbarous
treatment the Revenue Guard between Periapatna
& Fraserpett & almost all to Mercara have
received at the hands of the Telegraph
subordinates -

(SLB)

No 2822

3

Copy of the above, by order of Sir Richard Meade,
forwarded to Supt of Coorg who is requested
to hold an inquiry into the damage
reported, & submit at an early date,
the result for the orders of this Office

CL

for Secretary

Dec: 10. 1874 -

No 2823 Do to the Deputy Comr

- do - to the Deputy Comr of Mysore

CL

for Secretary

Dec: 10. 1874 -

Оф. Бан. на Мурад № 2275

15

2822-2823

10-12-44

1875

From The Dy. Commr Imporé

To 4 847

The Secretary to Chief Commissioner,

Imporé ~~General Department.~~

Dated 15 Bangalore

Despatched 15 January

Received

Enclosures No. /

General No. 2275
No.

His Memo No. 2823 of the 10th Ultimo on the subject of the injury done to avenue trees near Chikkoonda in the Periyapatna Taluk and requesting to hold an injury into the damage and to submit the result of the same.

In reply has the honor to submit copy of a letter addressed to the Commissioner on the subject from which it will be seen that notice had been taken previously of the injury done to the avenues

Deputy Commr
Imporé

Defenses M
27.1.76

Submitted
BNS
5/2/75

847

Transmitted to the Secy in the Genl Dept. for disposal

20/2/75

5

No. 1009

Deputy Commissioner's Office
Mysore District
Camp Hunsapura 15th Janry: 1875.

Docket 47

To,

The Commissioner
Ashtagram Division.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your docket No. 728 of the 29th September 1874 forwarding copy of correspondence noted in the margin with respect to the removal of branches of road side avenues which are likely to interfere with the Telegraph wires.

No. 4477/155 of 22d. Sept. from Secretary

2. In reply I beg to report that this is the first representation which I have received on the subject and I have given orders for the removal of 11 trees and certain branches of 52 trees which are reported to be likely to interfere with the telegraph wire.

3. With reference to Mr. Owen's observations as to my ignorance of the rules when I remonstrated with him on his felling the avenue trees between Hunsur and Krishnapet, I beg to point out that the whole spirit of

the

the rules as laid down in sections 1, 2, 3, 9 and (copy of which is appended for ready reference) shows that the Civil authorities ought to have been consulted: which was not done by Mr. Orens so far as this District was concerned. Section 8 which is quoted by him applies only to boughs up to 2 inches diameter whereas many of the young trees cut under his orders was of much greater diameter.

A reference to the representation* made by the Chief Engineer in the matter* Copy also sent shows clearly the extent of injury done. The number of young avenue trees cut down amount to 40, which the villagers were at great labor in rearing at a cost which is roughly estimated at Rs. 200. No remonstrance was received at the time of the avenue being planted as required in Section 12 of the rules: and if intimation even of a week had been given to me of what was intended as required by Section 9 sooner than the avenues should

be

be destroyed I would have suggested that the telegraph line might be removed further back as provided for in section 14 and the District Fund Committee would have readily borne any expense thereby entailed.

I have &c
Signed W. Hill
Dy. Commrs.

"Copy"

W. Hill

Deputy Commrs

Proceeding on the front of the Telegraph Office is most distasteful

It may now in many cases be desirable to remove entirely the existing avenue and plant some Sturdy trees some 25 ft further back from the line of telegraph posts

Chas Stevens
Supdt Ldn/Pk

The Hy. Comrs of Kingstone & the Supdt of Coaching to be at once addressed on this subject & requested to hold an inquiry into the damage reported, & submit their decision for my orders

10.12.76

To the Chief Commissioner

Attt

6/12/20

C.H.
9-12.

Copy to Supdt. Camp
+ do - to Dy. Conductor
Ingram with the order
of Camp Commdt. at
foot herein.

C.H.
10-12.

A

6

No. 361/215

From Coorg Superintendents Office

The Superintendent of Coorg

To The Secretary

to the Chief Commissioner

General Department

Bangalore

Dated 11th March 1875.

Sir

With reference to the correspondence as per margin on the subject of avenue trees planted under or near telegraph wires I have the honor to submit that orders were issued to lop such trees as were likely to interfere with the wire and although it is impossible to say now whether the orders were properly carried out and whether the telegraph officials were consequently justified in enforcing the rules in some cases. I have no hesitation in saying that in several instances I have seen ~~the~~ trees have been wantonly felled instead of being lopped and it would be difficult to describe the indiscriminate destruction in language that would not be offensive.

With regard to the future I would

Letter from Secretary Chief Commissioner General Dept. dated 22nd September 1874 No. 4478/936 to the Superintendent of Coorg.

Memo from Secretary Chief Commissioner D. P. W. No. 2822 to Superintendent of Coorg.

Copy of Letter to Superintt. Ashtagram Division from Secretary Chief Commissioner dated 6th January 1875 No. 7229/277 covered by do Memo of same date No. 723 2/988.

suggest that permission might be given to move the telegraph posts further from the side of the road in places where the removal would not prevent the line from being easily inspected from the road. This might be done by the ryots under the supervision of an officer of the Telegraph Department without cost to Government. When the telegraph wire runs parallel to the road within a few yards from the side drain trees must be planted so far be it that they can be of no use in shading the road & are not avenue trees.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obt Servant

H. G. Thomson
Superintendent.

M

(894)

Colonel Sankey's Memo dated 6th December 1874.
From Deputy Commissioner Mysore District to Secretary
P. W. D. dated 15th January 1875.
Genl. No. 113/16 } D/27-8 May/76 Do. Superintendent of Coorg dated 11th March 1875

Order thereon. 1. The Officiating Chief Commissioner observes that the manner in which Avenue trees on the Mysore-Mercara road had been mutilated, attracted the attention of Sir Richard Meade in January last, when as the result of the enquiry made, the Chief Commissioner formed the conclusion that the District authorities had not had their attention sufficiently directed to the terms of the Government of India Resolution No. 74-877 dated 4th February 1874 regarding the planting & cutting of trees which interfere with the Telegraph wires. Sir Richard Meade remarked that, "it would seem that in consequence of the omission of the Revenue authorities to take the necessary measures, the Telegraph Department had availed itself of the authority delegated to it in section 9 of the Rules to cut down several trees without further reference to the District Officer". The Chief Commissioner added "The reckless manner in which whole lines of fine young trees of four or five years old have been sacrificed is most painful to notice. These trees were planted by the villagers and have been taken care of

of by them, and it cannot but be a subject of keen regret to see them destroyed wholesale."

2. This destruction of trees appeared however to have occurred prior to December 1874, when the subject was noticed by the Secretary in the P. W. D. in his Memorandum above quoted. In this Memorandum Colonel Lankey remarked that large numbers of the avenue trees between Periapatam (Mysore District) Fraserpett (Coorg) and almost up to Mercara had just before been hacked about by the Telegraph Subordinates in such a manner that they can never recover their form.

3. In reply to the enquiry thereon addressed to the Deputy Commissioner of the Mysore District, and Superintendent of Coorg, the former officer has brought to notice that no representation on the subject was made to him by the Telegraph officials before they took the action they have done. Major Hill states that young trees to the number of forty have been cut down by those officials and that had any remonstrance been made to him as to their position when first planted with reference to the Telegraph wires, he could have taken steps in the matter.

4. The Superintendent of Coorg appears to have acted on some representations which had been made to him by the Telegraph Department, but he cannot state whether his orders were properly carried out. Major Thomson also comments strongly on the manner in which the officials of that Department mutilated the avenues.

5. The Officiating Chief Commissioner considers, that, although there may have been some remissness in Coorg in seeing that the orders of

Government

870

Government were duly observed, the conduct of the subordinates of the Telegraph Department in cutting down large numbers of trees in the Mysore District without previous intimation to the District Officer, admits of no excuse or justification.

6. In a communication addressed to this office on 12th August 1874, the Assistant Superintendent, Mercara Subdivision, Mr. Owens brought to notice that trees had been planted under the wires, and he was informed in reply that if he would indicate more exactly the places where the obstructions existed, measures would be taken to ensure compliance with the rules by the District officers.

7. The Assistant Superintendent's rejoinder was received on the 12th September and on the 19th Idem, instructions were sent to the Commissioner of the Ashtagram Division and Superintendent of Coorg to have the obstructing branches or trees removed, and a Copy of the Order Communicated to the Assistant Superintendent. Whether the proceedings taken by the Telegraph Department in clearing the telegraph line, were adopted in October or November does not appear, but it is quite evident that sufficient time had not elapsed to allow of the orders issued from this office being carried into effect, in the Mysore District.

8. The Officiating Chief Commissioner observes further that the object of avenue trees would be completely lost, if, as would seem from the papers before him, the telegraph line has been so placed in many instances that trees cannot be planted except at such a distance from the road that when grown, they can afford no shelter to it. Mr. Dalyell conceives that there can be no difficulty in shifting the Telegraph posts in such

A-72

Put up this Office
for 2 & 22 of the Gd. Ry
1875
16. 3-75

Submitted.
BHL
15/3/75

which a stop will be put to such wanton mischief in future. The Govt Officers may be to blame for not applying, but their silence does not justify the action that has apparently been taken. Rule 9 permits branches to be lopped but not trees to be cut down wholesale. Rule 10 expressly holds the Tel. Officer responsible for receiving cutting. With regard to Major Thomsons proposal I think it appears reasonable. The Govt do not intend that a public road shall be deformed for even the great boon of an avenue by reason of the Telegraph line.! Rule 1, last clause, expressly forbids a line being so placed as to interfere with future planting of avenue trees. It appears to have been so placed along the road in question in part at least. If not removed, there will be periodical vandalism on the part of Tel. subordinate officials.

BL 23/3

From Regd 1875 No 1349
15-3-75
458

The Superintendent of Coorg.

To

The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner,
for Coorg.

Dated. 11th March 1875.
Despatched. 14
Received. 13th
Regd 15

Enclosures No.

General No. 361
Mis. 215
} 1874-75.

458
Subject.

Reports regarding avenue trees interfering with the telegraph wire.

Previous references with P. W. S. —

Transfer to P. W. S.

15. 3. 75

I have directed the disposal of this in the Govt. Orders. As Sir R Meade will return so soon I should like him to deal with it finally. I am of opinion that the Tele Graph Officer who has so wantonly destroyed these trees should be called upon to account for it.

That is the only way

For the orders of the Chief Commissioner.

Memo by Colonel Sankey, R. E., Chief Engineer of Mysore, dated Camp Mercara, 6th December 1874, bringing to notice the reckless and barbarous treatment the avenue trees between Periyapatna and Fraserpet and almost up to Mercara, have received at the hands of the Telegraph subordinates.

I wish to bring to the notice of the Chief Commissioner that, notwithstanding the stringent orders issued by him on the subject of lopping avenue trees, I found that no end of promising young trees between Periyapatna Fraserpet and almost up to Mercara, have just now been hacked about in such a manner by the Telegraph subordinates that they can never recover their form. Large numbers of the trees have been chopped down to a stump and the branches of others simply given a chop on the upper side and torn down splitting them half through, the debris being strewn about, and often thrown into our side drains without apparently any consideration as regards their removal.

I have never seen such reckless barbarous work.

It may be true that in several instances the trees were growing so directly under the telegraph wire that it would perhaps be better if one or other were removed, but this in no wise I consider excuses (1) the breach of the regulations on the subject of loppings, nor (2) the unallayed barbarity with which the trees have been treated.

The rearing of avenues has been undertaken and carried on throughout Mysore with much trouble and expense by both our own and the Revenue Department, and this proceeding on the part of the Telegraph Department is most disheartening.

It may now in many cases be desirable to remove entirely the existing avenue and plant Goni stumps some 25 ft. further back from the line of Telegraph posts.

No. 2822, dated 10th December 1874.

Copy of the above, by order of Sir Richard Meade, forwarded to Superintendent of Coorg, who is requested to hold an inquiry into the damage reported, and submit, at an early date, the result of the same to this Office.

No. 2823, dated 10th December 1874.

Ditto. to the Deputy Commissioner of Mysore.

From the Deputy Commissioner, Mysore District, To the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore, Public Works Department, General No. 2275, dated 15th January 1875.

His memo No. 2823 of the 10th ultimo on the subject of the injury done to avenue trees near Chilkunda in the Periyapatna Taluk, and requesting to hold an inquiry into the damage, and to submit the result of the same.

In reply, has the honor to submit copy of a letter addressed to the Commissioner on the subject, from which it will be seen that notice had been taken previously of the injury done to the avenues.

From the Deputy Commissioner, Mysore District, To the Commissioner, Ashtagram Division, No. 1009, dated Camp Hampapur, 15th January 1875.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your docket No. 728 of the 29th September 1874, forwarding copy of correspondence noted in the margin with respect to the removal of branches of road-side avenues which are likely to interfere with the telegraph wires.

No. 4477—155 of 22nd September, from Secretary.

2. In reply, I beg to report that this is the first representation which I have received on the subject, and I have given orders for the removal of 11 trees and certain branches of 52 trees which are reported to be likely to interfere with the telegraph wire.

3. With reference to Mr. Owens' observations as to my ignorance of the rules when I remonstrated with him on his felling the avenue-trees between Húnsúr and Fraserpet, I beg to point out that the whole spirit of the rules as laid down in Sections 1, 2, 3, 9 (and copy of which is appended for ready reference) shews that the Civil authorities ought to have been consulted; which was not done by Mr. Owens so far as this District was concerned. Section 8 which is quoted by him applies only to boughs up to 2 inches diameter, whereas many of the young trees cut under his orders was of much greater diameter.

A reference to the *representation made by the Chief Engineer in the matter shews clearly the extent of injury done. The number of young avenue-trees cut down amount to 40, which the villagers were at great labor in rearing at a cost which is roughly estimated at Rs. 200. No remonstrance was received at the time of the avenue being planted as required in Section 12 of the rules: and if intimation even of a week had been given to me of what was intended as required by Section 9, sooner than the avenues should be destroyed I would have suggested that the telegraph line might be removed further back as provided for in Section 14, and the District Fund Committee would have readily borne any expense thereby entailed.

*Copy also sent.

Memo by the Public Works Secretary, dated 20th February 1875.

Transferred to the Secretary in the General Department for disposal.

From the Superintendent of Coorg, To the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore, General Department, No. 361—215, dated 11th March 1875.

With reference to the correspondence as per margin on the subject of avenue-trees planted under or near telegraph wires, I have the honor to submit that orders were issued to lop such trees as were likely to interfere with the wire, and although it is impossible to say now whether the orders were properly carried out and whether the Telegraph officials were consequently justified in enforcing the rules in some cases, I have no hesitation in saying that in several instances, I have seen the trees have been wantonly felled instead of being lopped, and it would be difficult to describe the indiscriminate destruction in language that would not be offensive.

Letter from Secretary, Chief Commissioner, General Department, dated 22nd September 1874, No. 4478—936, to the Superintendent of Coorg.
Memo from Secretary, Chief Commissioner, D. P. Works, No. 2822, to Superintendent of Coorg.
Copy of letter to Superintendent, Ashtagram Division, from Secretary, Chief Commissioner, dated 6th January 1875, No. 7229—277, covered by docket of same date, No. 7232—988.

With regard to the future I would suggest that permission might be given to move the telegraph posts further from the side of the road in places where the removal would not prevent the line from being easily inspected from the road. This might be done by the ryots under the supervision of an Officer of the Telegraph Department without cost to Government. When the telegraph wire runs parallel to the road within a few yards from the side drain, trees must be planted so far back that they can be of no use in shading the road and are not avenue-trees.

No. 113—GENL. 16, DATED BANGALORE, 27TH MAY 1875.

ORDER THEREON.—The Officiating Chief Commissioner observes that the manner in which avenue-trees on the Mysore-Mercara road had been mutilated attracted the attention of Sir Richard Meade in January last, when, as the result of the enquiry made, the Chief Commissioner formed the conclusion that the District authorities had not had their attention sufficiently directed to the terms of the Government of India Resolution No. 74—877, dated 4th February 1874, regarding the planting and cutting of trees which interfere with the telegraph wires. Sir Richard Meade remarked that "it would seem that in consequence of the omission of the Revenue authorities to take the necessary measures, the Telegraph Department had availed itself of the authority delegated to it in Section 9 of the Rules to cut down several trees without further reference to the District Officer." The Chief Commissioner added "The reckless manner in which whole lines of fine young trees of four or five years old have been thus sacrificed is most painful to notice. These trees were planted by the villagers and have been taken care of by them, and it cannot but be a subject of keen regret to see them destroyed wholesale."

2. This destruction of trees appeared, however, to have occurred prior to December 1874, when the subject was noticed by the Secretary in the Public Works Department, in his memorandum above quoted. In this memorandum Colonel Sankey remarked that

large numbers of the avenue-trees between Periyapatna (Mysore District) Fraserpet (Coorg) and almost up to Mercara had just before been hacked about by the Telegraph subordinates in such a manner that they can never recover their form.

3. In reply to the enquiry thereon addressed to the Deputy Commissioner of the Mysore District, and Superintendent of Coorg, the former Officer has brought to notice that no representation on the subject was made to him by the Telegraph officials before they took the action they have done. Major Hill states that young-trees to the number of forty have been cut down by those officials, and that had any remonstrance been made to him as to their position when first planted with reference to the telegraph wires, he could have taken steps in the matter.

4. The Superintendent of Coorg appears to have acted on some representations which had been made to him by the Telegraph Department, but he cannot state whether his orders were properly carried out. Major Thomson also comments strongly on the manner in which the officials of that Department mutilated the avenues.

5. The Officiating Chief Commissioner considers that, although there may have been some remissness in Coorg in seeing that the orders of Government were duly observed, the conduct of the subordinates of the Telegraph Department in cutting down large numbers of trees in the Mysore District without previous intimation to the District Officer, admits of no excuse or justification.

6. In a communication addressed to this Office on 12th August 1874, the Assistant Superintendent, Mercara Sub-Division, Mr. Owens brought to notice that trees had been planted under the wires, and he was informed in reply that if he would indicate more exactly the places where the obstructions existed, measures would be taken to ensure compliance with the rules by the District Officers.

7. The Assistant Superintendent's rejoinder was received on the 12th September, and on the 19th idem instructions were sent to the Commissioner of the Ashtagram Division and Superintendent of Coorg to have the obstructing branches or trees removed, and a copy of the order communicated to the Assistant Superintendent. Whether the proceedings taken by the Telegraph Department in clearing the telegraph line were adopted in October or November does not appear, but it is quite evident that sufficient time had not elapsed to allow of the orders issued from this Office being carried into effect in the Mysore District.

8. The Officiating Chief Commissioner observes further that the object of avenue-trees would be completely lost, if, as would seem from the papers before him, the telegraph line has been so placed in many instances that trees cannot be planted except at such a distance from the road that when grown, they can afford no shelter to it. Mr. Dalyell conceives that there can be no difficulty in shifting the Telegraph posts in such cases, the expense being borne, if requisite, by the District funds, and that these alterations, where really necessary, might be carried out by the Revenue Officers and local Telegraph officials in concert. The Director General of Telegraphs will be addressed on the subject, with a view to some such measure as that here proposed being devised and carried out, as speedily as practicable, and he will be requested to issue such orders to his subordinate officers employed in the Provinces of Mysore and Coorg as will prevent a repetition of the wanton destruction of valuable trees now brought to notice.

T. CLARKE,
Offg. Secretary.

To—The Commissioners of Divisions.
„ Superintendent of Coorg.
„ Secretary, Public Works Department.

1875.

ADMINISTRATION OF COORG.

GENERAL.

To

THE COMMISSIONERS OF DIVISIONS.
„ SUPERINTENDENT OF COORG.
„ SECRETARY, D. P. WORKS.

Dated May 27th.
Despatched
Received

Genl. No. 113.
„ 16.

Forwards certain observations by the Officiating Chief Commissioner on the reckless manner in which avenue-trees on the Mysore-Mercara road had been mutilated by the Subordinates of the Telegraph Department.

Mysore C. C. Office.

Bangalore 27th May 1875.

(8 10)

To.

The Director General
of Telegraphs.

Sir,

In forwarding for your information a copy of the Offg. Chief Commr's Proceedings No. 113/16 dated 27th Inst. X. in the matter of the undue destruction by the subordinates of the Electric Telegraph Depart. of certain Avenue trees on the line of road between Mysore & Mercara because they obstructed the Telegraphic wires, I am desired to request that you will be so good as to devise as early as practicable, some such measure as that proposed

commencing on the Mysore portion of the Mangalore Telegraph Line of the removal of a certain number of Avenue trees which have been found to interfere with the Telegraph wires, I am desired by the Chief Commr to ask for an expression of your views on the suggestions made in the last para, for shifting the line of posts wherever they may be found undesirably

mmk No. 114
" " 115

in the last para of the above proceedings, for preventing the branches of trees from interfering with the wires; and at the same time, that you will issue orders to your subordinate officers, employed in the Mysore and Coorg Provinces, restricting them from a repetition of such a wanton destruction of trees as brought to notice.

I have &c.

Offg. Secretary

Rly Co.

22/5/75.

Copy Chief Commissioner's office
Dated Bangalore 27th May 1875

To

The Director General of Telegraphs in India

Sir,

In forwarding for your information a copy of the Officiating Chief Commissioner's Proceedings No. 113/16 dated 27th May 1875, commenting on the proceedings of the subordinates of the Telegraph Department in the execution of the Orders issued to them to lop and remove trees where they interfered with the Telegraph wires, I am desired by the Offg: Chief Commissioner to ask for an expression of your views on the suggestion made in the last para, for shifting the line of poles wherever they may be found indispensably necessary.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most obedient servant
(Signed) Treweek Clarke
Offg: Secretary.

N.D

such cases, the expense being borne, if requisite by the District funds, and that these alterations where really necessary, might be carried out by the Revenue officers and local Telegraph officials in concert. The Director General of Telegraphs will be addressed on the subject, with a view to some such measure as that here proposed, being devised and carried out, as speedily as practicable, and he will be requested to issue such orders to his subordinate officers employed in the Provinces of Mysore and Coorg as will prevent a repetition of the wanton destruction of valuable trees now brought to notice.

To Commissioners of Divisions.
" Superintendent of Coorg.
" Secretary P. W. D.

Proceedings of the Chief Commissioner of Coorg, General Department, 24th August 1875.

From the Offg. Director General of Telegraphs in India, To the Offg. Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Coorg, General Department, No. 1622—C. G. dated Simla the 10th August 1875.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter General No. 114—17, dated Bangalore, 27th May 1875, forwarding for my information a copy of the Chief Commissioner's Proceedings No. 113-16, and requesting an expression of my opinion on the suggestion made in the last para, for shifting the line of Telegraph posts whenever they may be found indispensably necessary.

2. With reference to the 7th para of the Proceedings No. 113 in which it is stated, "but it is quite evident that sufficient time had not elapsed to allow of the orders issued from this office being carried into effect in the Mysore District," I have to remark that when trees or the branches of trees are in contact with Telegraph lines or likely to come in contact with them, thereby causing interruption to communication, the circumstances of the position do not admit of the delay that in other affairs would in all probability be of no importance. In connection with this subject Mr. Assistant Superintendent Ovens states as follows:—"As many of the trees in the Coorg Division and Periyapatna Taluk appeared to have "been lately planted immediately under the wire, I asked for the removal of the trees and subsequently "pointed out the localities where the trees would interfere with the wires. The Chief Commissioner then "wrote to the Commissioner, Ashtagram Division, and the Superintendent of Coorg, drawing their atten- "tion to the rules concerning the cutting of avenue trees which were promulgated by the Government of "India and republished in the *Mysore Gazette* of the 3rd March 1873 and stated—"If any trees threaten "to become a permanent source of injury to the Telegraph wires they should be cut down;" I considered "that the trees immediately under the wire would be removed by the Civil authorities, and on enquiry it "appears orders were sent to the village authorities in Coorg and part of the Ashtagram Division to do "this ; the trees were not however touched owing probably to the dislike or superstitious dread the coun- "try-people have of cutting trees planted by themselves and fearing to transplant them on account of the "dryness of the soil. Permission having been thus given by the Chief Commissioner no further reference "was made". No one has a greater regard for trees and their preservation than myself; but when a line of Telegraph has been established and maintained for years, if trees are planted immediately under it, I really do not know what other course is open to the Officers of this Department who are responsible for the maintenance of Telegraph communication than to prune or cut the trees as may be necessary and to act in this respect in the manner and to the extent sanctioned by the Government of India.

3. With regard to the proposal to shift the lines of Telegraph to such a distance from their present positions so as to admit of avenue of trees being planted sufficiently near the roads to afford them shelter, I have to point out that in all probability to give effect to this it would be necessary to take down and re-erect the greater part of the Telegraph lines in Mysore and Coorg, and moreover that the chief reasons for, and advantages of, the Telegraph lines having been constructed near the roads, namely, accessibility at all times of the year, and facility of inspection and executing necessary repairs in case of interruption, would be lost.

4. If however the lines of Telegraph can be erected outside where avenues of trees would be planted and are desired and in positions admitting of their being easily and readily inspected from the road and easy of access at all times of the year, I shall be quite prepared to meet the views of the Chief Commissioner on this point on the understanding that the entire expense of effecting the alterations in the positions of the Telegraph lines be provided and paid for by the Local Funds.

5. On being informed of the extent to which the Chief Commissioner considers the alterations should be effected, and of the exact length and locality of each portion of line to be altered, orders will be issued for the preparation of the necessary estimates, and the Chief Commissioner informed of the estimated cost of each alteration, with the view of the requisite funds being placed at the disposal of this Department for the execution of the work.

No. 333—GENL. 71, DATED BANGALORE, 24TH AUGUST 1875.

ORDER THEREON.—From the quotations supplied in the Director General's letter it does not seem to the Offg. Chief Commissioner that Mr. Assistant Superintendent Ovens' explanation meets the points to which reference was made in the Offg. Chief Commissioner's Proceedings No. 113—16, dated 27th May 1875. Mr. Ovens alludes through-

out to trees "recently planted." But the allegations against the Telegraph officials were, that they had lopped and hacked the branches of large avenue trees, before time had been given, in the case of the Mysore District, to have their requisitions complied with.

2. The Deputy Commissioners of Mysore and of the other Districts, as well as the Superintendent of Coorg are requested to submit statements giving particulars as to the precise localities where the removal of the Telegraph wires will be requisite, to such a distance only from the road, as will place them beyond the reach of the avenue trees.

T. CLARKE,
Offg. Secretary

To—The Commissioners of Divisions.
„ Superintendent of Coorg.
„ Dy Commissioner, Mysore District.

No 158 Coorg Superintendent's Office 812

Dated 19th November 1875.

From

The Superintendent of Coorg

To

The Secretary to the Chief Commrs
Public Works Department
Bangalore

Sl 19

Sir,

With reference to the Proceedings of the Chief Commissioner and order thereon (para 2) dated 24th August 1875 No 333 Genl 71 regarding the shifting of Telegraph posts interfering with avenue trees, I have the honor to submit for acceptance the enclosed Notification of sanction for ~~Rs~~ 41- " -3 on account of charges for altering the posts on the Mercara Fraserpet line as detailed in the enclosed memo with the exception of items 2 and 7 which the Assistant Superintendent Telegraph Department objects to in his letter dated 29th September 1875 No 250 copy annexed

2 The estimate was received from the Assistant Superintendent Telegraph Department, Mercara Sub Division with his letter dated 16th October 1875 No 269 copy attached

3 Should the estimate be approved the lines on the Cannanore and Sumpaji Ghâts will be inspected and reported on as soon as possible

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most obedt Servant

A. G. Thomson
Superintendent

A&Ps.

Regd No 5832

From -

The Superintendent T.S.
of Coorg

To

The Secretary to the
Chief Commissioner
Public Works Dept
Bangalore.

Dated 19 November 1875.

No 158 Encs 3.

Submits for acceptance a Notification of sanction for Rs 41 - - - 3 on account of charges for altering the Telegraph posts on the Mercara Fraserpett line

Returned

22-11

Submitted
Rs 41-3-

Memo of alterations that can be made in the Telegraph line from Mercara to Fraserpett in view to preventing the avenue trees interfereing with the wire.

I From 150 miles 7 furlongs below the junction of old and new roads 6 posts down the road

II From 149 miles 12 posts up road past Boikerry Culicherry might be put into coffee gardens in the valley

III 9 posts up the road from the Boikerry Estate entrance

IV From 147 miles 7 furlongs. 2 posts up the road perhaps 3

V 8 posts near embankment below Ballale Kadoo Estate from 146 miles 4 furlongs upwards

VI 3 posts from 146 miles upwards

VII Line through Soontikopah village might be put back into paddy fields.

VIII 2 posts from 141 miles 1 furlong up the road

IX 5 posts from 141 miles 2 furlongs or about 1 furlong above Nanjaraypatten Nad boundary upwards

X 4 posts on North of road and 14 to South of road down to 138 miles 5 furlongs.

XI 4 posts at Madapattan cart village above 136 miles 3 furlongs

XII 4 posts from old banian tree to Distillery Nullah 136 mile

J. G. Morgan

A.S.D.

Superintendent

No 250

From

The Asst. Superintendent.
Mercara Sub Divn. Telegraph Dept.

To

The Superintendent of Coorg

Dated Fraserpett the 29th of Sept. 1875.

Sir,

In reply to your letter No 351 of 23rd Instt. I have the honor to inform you that the alterations proposed by you in the memo attached to the above letter can certainly if necessary be effected and with the exception of Nos 2 and 7 would make little or no difference in the maintenance or inspection of the Tele-graph line; No 2 I do not consider advan-tageous as the wire would have to be carried at the side of a deep ravine and the land being private property difficulty might arise in procuring sufficient space for the wire as there are some large trees in the way and the ravine is planted with coffee; with regard to No 7. I beg to remark that a straighter line could be got, but do not consider the alteration advantageous on account of the difficulty of inspection during the greater part of the year.

2. With regard to any alterations thought necessary to be made in the Telegraph line I beg to remark that on account of the expense the alterations cannot be made unless sanctioned by the Director General of Telegraphs.

3. I beg to draw your attention to Paras 11 and 12 of the Rules regarding the planting and cutting of trees near the Telegraph wires and request you will order your subordinates not to plant within the prescribed limit

of

of distance from the existing line; this request is necessary as I am sorry to observe that within the last few months shoots have been set in the old line of trees almost directly under the wire.

I have the honor &c
(Signed) John Owens
Asst. Superintendent
Telegraph Dept.

No 269

From

The Asst. Superintendent
Mercara Sub Divn. Telegraph Dept.

To

The Superintendent of Coorg
Dated Yelwal the 16th of October 1875

Sir,

I have the honor herewith to enclose an Estimate of the cost of shifting the Telegraph line at ten points between Mercara and Sra. serpell as requested in your office letter No 375 of 4th Instant

2. I beg to draw your attention to para 2 of my letter No. 250 and to inform that the estimate together with copies of the correspondence will be submitted to the Superintendent of Telegraphs Malabar Coast Division who may probably arrange the work, but it appears from the Rules regarding the "Planting and cutting of trees near Telegraph wires" that before any alterations be made in the existing line of Telegraph a special report should be made to the Government of India which I presume you will

arrange

1875.

ADMINISTRATION OF COORG.

GENERAL.

To

THE ~~COMMISSIONERS OF DIVISIONS~~.

„ ~~DY. COMMISSIONER OF MYSORE~~.

„ SUPT. OF COORG.

Dated August 24th.

Despatched 1st Septr

Received

No. 333.
Genl. 71

Passing certain remarks on letter from the Director General of Telegraphs in India, and requesting the Deputy Commissioners of Mysore and other Districts, as well as the Superintendent of Coorg, to submit statements giving particulars as to the precise localities to which the Telegraph wires may be moved from the road, as will place them beyond the reach of the avenue trees.

To Secretary

The Superintendent of Coorg submits for acceptance a Notification of sanction for Rs 41-4-3 the cost of shifting 5-9 Telegraph Posts on the line between Mercara and Fraserpett which interfere with the avenue trees.

2. This Notification is submitted with reference to Chief Conl. Genl. W. $\frac{333}{71}$ of the 24th August which called for particulars as to the precise localities where the removal of the Telegraph wires will be requisite to place them beyond the reach of the avenue trees. Particulars regarding the Cannanore and Tellicherry Posts are forwarded

3. The Asst. Supt. of Telegraphs complains that fresh avenue trees are being planted on the line of old trees within the prescribed limit of distance from the Telegraph wires. Is it not the intention that all roads should have avenue trees and that where necessary the Telegraph should be shifted to make room for them?

4. The Arch. Dept. also states that special report should be made to the Govt. of India before any alteration in the lines is made. The papers should I presume be transferred to the General Dept.

24-11

Draft. 814

Corr. Dept. 1875. No. 502-66

From

The Secretary to the
Chief Commissioner for Coorg.

To

The Superintendent of Coorg.

Dated Bangalore
Despatched } 10th December 1875.
Received

ENCLOSURES NO.

General No. 502 187 —7 .
a No. 66

814

Your letter No. 158 dy 19th November 1875, to the address of the Secretary to the Ch. Commr. D. S. W.

With reference to the above, ~~calls his attention~~ Para 2. of the Offg. Ch. Comrs Proceedings No. 333-71 dy 24th Aug. last, and requests that a Statement be furnished, ~~at the earliest date~~ shewing in detail what alterations will be needed, to all the ~~telegraph~~ Road lines in Coorg.

Coorg, in order to secure the telegraphic connection with Cutack via Vizagapatam. By order &c

Offg. Secretary

7. 12. 75.

No 93

To Officer in charge of Telegraph Department
Bangalore. — 816

Sir,

I have the honor to forward herewith copy of report from the Executive Engineer, Kumbidway Division, bringing to notice unnecessary & destructive lopping of the avenue trees on the road from Bangalore to Kuppam by your Department, and request you will be good enough to call on the Subordinates concerned for explanation.

2 — It would appear that the reckless lopping of avenue trees adjoining the lines of wire along the roads in this province has been already the subject of correspondence & that the Director General has been requested to devise means for preventing the wanton destruction of valuable trees. The case under notice then appears to call for immediate & searching investigation.

I have &c. &c.

Sl 16

19-4-76.

CH.

Ag. A. Secy.

Copy to Dr. J. Telegraphs
with No 278 & 462 of 16th June 76

Repd. No. 29 of 24-4-76

1 x 9

Pg 93

19-4-76

No. 24

FROM The Asst Superintendent
Mercara Sub Div. Govt Telegraph Dept

TO The Under Secretary to the Chief Commissioner
of Mysore - P.W. Dept - Roads & Buildings
Camp Gundulpet the 24th of April 1876.

SIR,

With reference to your letter No 93 of the 19th inst I have the honor to state that the trees in question have not been cut so as to disfigure them at all; at the points in question some few large branches of old avenue trees were hanging horizontally over and within about a foot of the wire and these only were cut away near the trunk, in all other cases the boughs handing over with the ends touching or nearly touching the wire were cut as far as the workmen could possibly get to the extremity consistent with their safety, in the 31 2/3 mile the Telegraph Line is in danger from the falling of branches of these trees which are between the line and the high road the wire has been broken once and often brought down, and only on the 18th March last a large branch of one of these trees brought the wire down and caused interruption to the working of the line for two days, this was after the cutting which shews that the sides of the trees were not cut away to the extent imagined; the trees were not unnecessarily cut or to any great extent.

If some of the branches are not cut the trees will destroy the Tel. Line

The trees will not require touching again for some years

2. I have observed that the Road authorities take the greatest care to insure the avenue trees not falling over the high road by keeping the branches on that side much lighter, cutting away some of the long & heavy ones, so in case the Telegraph Line happens to run under or near the other sides of the trees, the trees when they fall will come over the wire causing great damage, which however appears to be altogether disregarded by the persons in charge.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Obedt Servant

John Owens
Asst Supt Mercara Sub Div
Telegraph Dept

18/6 Sept: 10502

GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

FROM The Asst Supt
Mercantile Submarine Tel Dept

To The Under Secretary to the Commissioners Mysore

Dated April 76

Recd

No. 29-

Encs.

Index No.

ABSTRACT.

PRECIS.

Reply to your office letter No 1[illegible] of the 19th inst

Copy sent to Captain Fraser 27/4/76

Submitted BWS 27/4/76

(P. 121 A.)

COORG DEPT. 1875. SL13 No. 162

From The Secretary
Dept of Public Works

Dated 25th November
Received 3rd December
Registered 502/1875

No.

Transfer for despatch
Certain correspondence
from Dept of Coorg relative
to the removal of Telegraph
Posts to localities which
will place them beyond
the reach of the avenue
trees on the Mercara
Fraserpet road.

SL13

Vide letter dated 15th Oct 1875

No.
155. To The Engr. Hamilton.

With reference to your No 219 of 27th ult. has (No. 29 of the 24th Instant)
the honor to forward copy of letter received from
the Asst Surpt of the Telegraph Department, and
observe that as Mr Owens contradicts the
statement made by Mr Holdsell that the lopping
was reckless & unnecessary you should yourself
take an early opportunity to inspect the trees
in company with the Surveyor and submit a
report on the matter.

Ch. [illegible] Engr.
29-4-76

Chapman-Love Lt. Declaration
Lake Jo 2782 816 ½ June/76
462

Repts Sc. 299 of 1-5-76

455
29-4-76

No 299 / 1423 / Dept No 654

2-5-76

To

Hon Superintending Engineer
of Roads and Buildings

Dated 1st May 1876

Subject

Application from Messrs Kincaid & Co for lopping of branches of avenue trees for Telegraph Department.

Telegraph 28 & 29 16th June 1876

Collector's Letter 27th June 1876

2/5/76

Submitted

AMS

4/5/76

Put on the file the Proceedings of Chief Commr on the subject.

Cl.
5-4.

Sir

Attended to

4/5/76

and 5-5-76

No. 299
1423

Executive Engineer's Office
Bangalore Kolar Division
Bangalore 1st May 1876

Rule 18

To,

The Superintending Engineer
Roads and Buildings

Sir,

I have the honor with reference to your No 455 of the 29th ultimo to observe that the lopping reported by the Supervisor only affects about that Subordinate informs me 10 of the trees and one lower branch of each.—

2 The Telegraph Assistant Superintendent seems to admit in his letter para 1 that his Department lopped to the trunk as he says at "the points in question some few large branches "of old avenue trees were hanging horizontally "over and within about a foot of the wire and "those only were cut away near the trunk."

3 It is of this act that the Supervisor Complained in his report—

4 The Assistant Superintendent further in the next para states that "the trees were not unnecessarily cut to any great extent" implying that they were cut to some extent

which

which is what the Superviser brought to notice.
5th It would in my opinion tend to prevent
any damage of the kind in future if the general
rule were laid down that the Telegraph Depart-
ment should cut no part of a branch lying
within 15 feet of the trunk and that all lopping
close up to the trunk should be interdicted.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your Most Obedient Servant

C. W. Fraser Captain R.E.

Executive Engineer &c.

References at once

6/5/76

Submitted

AWS

6/5/76

From: The Executive Engineer

Bengulen Volcanic Division

To: The Superintending Engineer

Roads and Buildings

Dated 5th

Despatched May 1876

Received

Enclosures No.

General No. 316 } 18

No. 492 }

Has the honor to reply to the Superintending Engineer's reference [illegible] the [illegible] work [illegible] in the 31, 32, and 33 miles just out of Closepet at places where the Telegraph posts approach the trees and also in the 40th mile near Channapatam —

A W Fraser Captain

for Executive Engineer

1876. 1148

From The Secretary to the

To Chief Commr of Mysore D. P. W.

Dated 22nd May 1876

Despatched

~~Received~~ 22 " "

ENCLOSURES NO. 6

General No.

No.

I am to forward certain papers regarding the removal of trees by the Telegraph Department.

In reply to the above papers I am directed to request that the Telegraph Engineer in Canara may be informed that the Chief Commr has no objection to the removal of trees in the manner proposed by him provided notice and a description of the trees to be removed be given to the Deputy Commissioner of the District.

1876. 209

From

To The Director General of Telegraphs.

Dated 16 June 1876.

Despatched 19

Received Rec'd 23 —

ENCLOSURES NO. 7

General No. 2786

No. 462.

Forwarding certain papers of a further instance regarding the wanton destruction of Avenue trees by the Telegraph Department.

Copy sent to Com's Dep't 23 June 1876 & 10 Ch's

extent. Capt Bowen Superintending Engineer of Roads & Bridges however soon after personally inspected the trees, and reported as follows: "The trees have been hacked most recklessly "A trimming of the branches over-hanging or growing close up to the wire was clearly needed, but there was no occasion for such wanton disfigurement." The Chief Engineer also remarks that some trees had been cut down to within three or four feet of the ground, and that this was the work of the Telegraph Department.

I have &c.

Offg Secretary.

2/16/76

1876.

From The Director General of Telegraphs in India

To The Secretary to the Ch. Commissioner of Mysore.

Dated Simla, 28th July 1876.

Despatched

Received 5 August

ENCLOSURES NO.

General No. 8

No. 16 to 40

This Office No. 2786/462 of the 16th June ament the cutting of branches of trees on the Bangalore – Mysore roads by the Telegraph Dept. –

Regretting the occurrence and explaining that the Asstt. Supdt. in charge of that line has for Departmental reasons been transferred to another part of India. –

Copy of the correspondence to Communicated to No. 1 & 2 Secretary to the Chief Engr. PWD & Comm. of Dist

5.8.76

8.8.76.

C/4 4

No. 1640

FROM

THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF TELEGRAPHS IN INDIA,

To

The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore.

Simla ~~Calcutta~~, the 28 of July 1876.

SIR,

In reply to your No. 2786/462 of the 16th June, about the branches of ten trees on the road between Bangalore and Mysore having been cut close to the trunks, I regret to find, on enquiry, that the Assistant Supt. in Charge of the line has exceeded his duty in the matter - inasmuch as he did not follow the course laid down in para 9 (as per margin) of the rules published in the Supplement of the Gazette of India dated 15th February 1873 on the subject of Telegraph officers cutting trees. He has now, for Departmental reasons, been transferred

> "In cases where it is necessary that large boughs or tops of trees should be cut a permission to cut them should be asked in writing from the officer in whose charge they are. Should no answer be received within ten days of the date of despatch of the letter to the office of the officer concerned, the Telegraph officer may intimate his intention to proceed to cut the branches and one week thereafter shall be at liberty to cut the branches without further reference".

transferred to another part of India, but his successor has been ordered to adhere strictly to the letter of the rules.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obedt Servt

Albert. Lapper

Offg Director Genl of Telegraphs.

Sir

Proceedings of the C. C of Mysore

(Letter No 2786 462 d/16th. June/76, and its enclosures, by the Director General of Telegraphs in India)

(From. Ditto No 1640 dated 28th. July/76).

No dated.

Ordered that ~~copies of~~ the foregoing correspondence be communicated to the undermentioned Officers for information.

To.
The Chief Engineer. P. W. D.
Comm.rs of Divisions.

Offg. Secretary.

8.8.76

Genl

Do Chief Engineer

Comrs of Dms

Supdt of Coast

& 10th August

No 4770
827.

21

Recd 12½ M. 8 - 76 10

Forwarding Comm. rd.
- funding the reckless
felling of trees by
the subordinates of the
Telegraph Depth.

Mysore Public Works Department

No. 560 1871

From The ~~Chief~~ Executive Engineer
~~of Mysore~~
Nanjanagud

To

Dated 5th Dec 1871
Despatched
Received 11th Dec 1871

Executive Engineers etc.

Subject

Your Memo No 2799 of 1 Dec.

Please inform me on what date the lopping took place. ~~I shall~~ I shall be proceeding down Mysore Road on Monday & can examine the trees.

C.B.
5-5.

at once.

trees on the main road from Bangalore to Mysore most recklessly. Captain Bowen adds that a "thinning of the branches overhanging or growing close to the wire was clearly needed, but there was no occasion for such wanton "disfigurement," the branches being cut off close to the trunk, though the wire was 30 ft. or more from the stem.

2. The Offg. Chief Commissioner would again urge that some further check than that which at present exists apparently should be placed upon the discretion of the Local Telegraph Officers, and that they should be prohibited from interfering with Avenue trees, the lopping

of

of which can be
effected by the Officer
of the Department res:
ponsible for their conser:
=vancy.

Thanking You.
Yours &c
J. Clarke
Hon Secy

Proceedings of the Chief Commissioner of Mysore, General Department,
10th August 1876.

From the Offg. Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore, General Dept., To the Director General of Telegraphs in India, No. 2786—G. 462 dated Bangalore, 16th June 1876.

In continuation of previous * correspondence relative to the manner in which avenue trees, where they interfere with telegraphic wires, are lopped by the subordinates of the Telegraph Department, I am desired to bring forward for your consideration the enclosed copy of correspondence on the subject of a further instance in which, as reported by the Superintending Engineer for Roads and Buildings, the employés of the Telegraph Department are stated to have hacked the avenue trees on the main road from Bangalore to Mysore, most recklessly. Captain Bowen adds that a "thinning" of the branches overhanging or growing close to the wire was clearly needed, but there was no occasion for such wanton "disfigurement," the branches being cut off close to the trunk, though the wire was 30 feet or more from the stem.

* This Office letter dated 27th May 1875, No. 114—17.
Your letter No. 1622, dated 10th August 1875.

2. The Offg. Chief Commissioner would again urge that some further check than that which at present exists apparently should be placed upon the discretion of the Local Telegraph Officers, and that they should be prohibited from interfering with avenue trees, the lopping of which can be effected by the Officer of the Department responsible for their conservancy.

From the Director General of Telegraphs in India, To the Offg. Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore, No. 1640, dated Simla the 28th of July 1876.

In reply to your No. 2786—462 of the 16th July about the branches of ten trees on the road between Bangalore and Mysore having been cut close to the trunks, I regret to find on enquiry that the Assistant Superintendent in charge of the line has exceeded his duty in the matter, inasmuch as he did not follow the course laid down in para 9 (as per margin) of the rules published in the Supplement of the *Gazette of India* dated 15th February 1873, on the subject of Telegraph Officers cutting trees. He is now, for departmental reasons, been transferred to another part of India, but his successor has been ordered to adhere strictly to the letter of the rules.

"In cases where it is necessary that large boughs or tops of trees should be cut, permission to cut them should be asked in writing from the Officer in whose charge they are. Should no answer be received within ten days of the date of despatch of the letter to the office of the Officer concerned, the Telegraph Officer may intimate his intention to proceed to cut the trees and one week thereafter shall be at liberty to cut the branches without further reference."

No 4770—GENL. 821, DATED BANGALORE, 10TH AUGUST 1876.

ORDERED, that the foregoing correspondence be communicated to the undermentioned Officers for information.

T. CLARKE,
Offg. Secretary.

To—The Chief Engineer, P. W. D. 6 Copies
„ Commissioners of Divisions. 3 " each
„ Superintendent of Coorg. — 2 —

1876.

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE.

GENERAL.

To

THE CHIEF ENGINEER, P. W. D.
„ COMMISSIONERS OF DIVISIONS.
„ SUPERINTENDENT OF COORG.

Dated August 10th.
Despatched 19th
Received

No. 4770.
Genl. 821.

Forwarding correspondence regarding the reckless felling of avenue trees by the Subordinates of the Telegraph Department.

A. 80

1876. 223

From The Officiating Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore D.B.D.

To

Secretary to Chief Commissioner,
General Department.

Dated 24th & 25th October/76

Despatched

Received 6th Oct.

ENCLOSURES NO. 4 — 1. Copies of Correy. (extracts &c.) 2 & 3 Statements 4. Chart

General No. 1957 } 1876—77.
No. 2401 }

Forwards copies of correspondence with statements shewing the proximity of the telegraph wires to the avenue trees on certain lines of road in the Bangalore and Tumkur Districts.—

SL 23

We are already in correspt. with the Comr. or Dep. Comr. on the removal of the Telegraph wires touching the avenue trees — Note what has been done

Yes K

Mysore Chief Commrs Office
P. W. Department
Bangalore 4th October 1876

No 1957
3401

From,

Lieutenant Colonel F. R. Johnson
Offg Secy to the Chief Commrs of Mysore P.W.D.

To

The Secretary to the Chief Commrs of Mysore
General Department.

Sir,

I am directed by the Chief Commissioner to forward to you copies of the marginally noted papers received from the Superintending Engineer Roads and Buildings Branch, bringing to notice the damage done to the avenue trees on certain lines of road in the Bangalore and Tumkur Districts, and shewing the actual lengths of the telegraph line that absolutely require removal on account of their interference with avenue trees - with a view to the Director General of Telegraphs being again addressed from the General Department in continuation of previous correspondence, as directed by the Chief Commissioner in his endorsement.

1. Extract of para 2 of Supg Engrs Inspection Report dated 30th June 1876 with two extracts from Chief Engrs No 1240 and Chief Commissioners endorsement.
2. Superintending Engineers No 2398 of 13th September 1876 with 2 Statements 1 Chart and 1 letter from Exc. Engs Bangalore Kolar.

Also copy of letter addressed by this Office to the Director General of Telegraphs.

P

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedient Servant

Bangalore
4th October 1863

Lt Colll
Offg Secy to the Chief Commr of Mysore
D.A.G.

Recd

No. 2786
G. 462

Mysore & Coorg
Bangalore 16th June 1876

21

To

The Director General of
Telegraphs
in India

Sir,

In continuation of
previous correspondence
relative to the manner
in which Avenue trees,
where they interfere with
telegraphic wires, are
lopped by the subordinates
of the Telegraph Depart-
ment, I am directed to
bring forward for your
consideration the enclosed
copy of correspondence
on the subject of a further
instance in which as re-
ported by the Superintend-
ing Engineer for Roads
and Buildings, the em-
ployes of the Telegraph
Department are stated
to have (hacked) the Avenue
trees

This Office letter dated 27th
May 1875. No. 114
17
Your letter No. 1622 dated
10th August 1875.

Lopped?

Encl 6522

Extract from an Inspection Report by the Superintending Engineer Roads and Buildings Branch dated 30th June 1876.—

× × ×

2. I made particular note of the fact that the promising young avenue trees along this (Nellamungalum Tumkur) Road, are in many places threatened with future mutilation in consequence of the close proximity of the Telegraph wires, which generally too near the avenue line, now and then run right over the young trees. This is a matter which I think calls for immediate remedy by the removal of the posts and wires to a short distance. On the 1st instant, I addressed a letter on the subject to the Superintendent Telegraph Deptt, but as yet I have received no reply. Some of the older avenue trees have, as remarked, been already disfigured by having their branches on one side lopped when the wires run through the head of tree.

× × ×

The damage done to the Avenue trees by the Telegraph Department is a very serious matter that has been more than once brought to notice. On the last occasion, Mr. Bellyell ordered the file to be sent to the General Department for disposal, and I am informed the Director General has been addressed on the subject. I would recommend that the circumstances now reported may also be brought to his notice, either by this Department or the General Secy as the Chief Commr may see fit.

Sd/ H. R. J

* We might address direct from this Department, but a copy of this might also be sent to the General Deptt, where it can also be taken up in continuation of previous correspondence.—

Sd/ C. B. S
4/7/76.

Extract from Chief Engineer's No 1240 dated 6th July 1876 to the Superintending Engineer Roads and Buildings Branch.

× × ×

II. With reference to the remarks in your para 2 regarding the proximity of the Telegraph line to the avenue trees. I shall in accordance with the Chief Commissioner's orders address the Director General of Telegraphs, but before doing so, I think it advisable that more definite information should be supplied regarding the actual lengths of the line that absolutely require removal in the many places alluded to, also if in each of those places the Telegraph is in the same situation in which it was originally set up, or has been subsequently moved, if the portions of the avenue threatened or cut away have been recently planted, or if any of the trees were in existence before the Telegraph line was set up. In many places, the Telegraph line was originally set up to run as directly as possible across country, and for considerable distances did not come near the roads. This being found inconvenient, it was afterwards moved close up to the roads, but I am not aware that any reference was made to either the Revenue or P. W. Department as to whether there was any objection to the line selected either then

or in subsequent removals. The information applied for above, as regards the lengths of line requiring removal, can easily be procured from the Road Overseers; in fact, it appears to me that the circumstances now brought to notice should have previously attracted their attention and that of the Assistant Engineer in charge. If the rest of the information is not procurable, the submission of the report need not be delayed

X X X

Superintending Engineer's Office
Roads and Buildings
Dated Bangalore 13th September/74

No 2398.

To

The Temporary Chief Engineer
of Mysore.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No 1240 of the 6th July last, requesting information regarding the actual lengths of the Telegraph line that absolutely require removal on account of their interference with avenue trees, I have the honor to forward copies of statements received from the Executive Engineers of Bangalore-Kolar and Tumkur Divisions, furnishing the information called for,

Enclosures
2 Statements
1 Chart
1 Letter

for, together with copy of letter No 540 / 2343 of the 29th ultimo from Captain Fraser, and of the chart therein alluded to.

I have &c
(Signed) C. Bowen Capt R.E.
Offg Supg Engr of Mysore R.C.B
Branch.

Executive Engineer's Office
Bangalore Kolar Division
Bangalore 29th July 1876.

No 540
2343.

To

The Superintending Engineer
Roads and Buildings.

Sir,

With reference to your No 1519 of 14th instant, I have the honor to enclose a Statement of Furlongs Hellamungalum to Bangalore in which the Telegraph line comes within 5 to 24 feet of the trunks of the avenue trees. On the rest of the line, the trees are all at or beyond ten yards from the trunks.

2. I also forward in illustration a chart of the furlongs indicated in the statement in which the rectilineal line shows the portions of the Telegraph line needing removal, and the curves those

portions

portions which do not injure the avenue.

3. The trees all along these furlongs are old trees except the few instances in which decayed trees have been replaced.

4. The circumstances under which the telegraph line was laid are not known.—

I have &c,

Signed A. T. Fraser, Capt. R.E.
Executive Engineer

Mysore Chief Commr's Office
A. F. Department
Bangalore 3rd October 76

No 1952
2393

To

The Director General of
Telegraphs in India.
Simla

Sir,

With reference to your letter No 1640 of the 28th July 76, to the address of the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, General Department, regarding the felling of avenue trees by the Subordinates of the Telegraph Department, where they interfered with telegraph wires, I am directed to forward for your information and such action in the matter as may be necessary the accompanying extract (para 2) from an

Inspection

Inspection Report by the Superintending Engineer Roads and Buildings Branch dated 30th June/76, bringing to notice that some of the older avenue trees on the Bellamungalum - Tumkur Road have been disfigured by having their branches on one side lopped where the wires run through the head of the trees, while the younger trees are in many places threatened with future mutilation in consequence of the too close proximity of the Telegraph wires. The marginally noted State-ments &c shew the lengths of the Telegraph line along the road from Bangalore to Bellary, which require removal on account of their interference with the avenue trees.—

2 Statements
1 Chart
1 Copy explanatory letter from Supdt Engrs

II. You will see from the papers that in several instances the positions of the wires were changed after the avenue trees were planted. It does not appear that any reference was made to either the Revenue or P. W. Department as to whether there was any objection to the changes in this and other instances.—

I have &c

/Signed/ F. A. Johnson Lieut Coll
Offg Secy to the Chief Commr
Mysore P. W. D.

/True Copies/

F. A. Johnson Lieut Coll

Encl nil. Offg Secy to the Chief Commr of Mysore P. W. D.

C
A. 80

C. 44/6
228

187 6.

From The Secy to the Chief Commr of Burmah. C. F. D.

To

Secretary to Chief Commissioner,
General Department.

Dated
Despatched 10th October 1876.
Received
Reg 12th

ENCLOSURES NO Two

General No. 2004 } 1876—77
No. 3466

Forwards Copy of this Office No 2003 addressed to the Director General of Telegraphs in India forwarding Copy of statement shewing the lengths of the Telegraph lines in each Circle with the Annual Rates on the Roads from Bellaunmeo - Lucin - to Lumbaun.

12/10

Sundries Home Cable No 1957 dy 4 Oct.
The details called for from Commr of Bhr by C C Pro No 3331/1 dy 2d Aug 1875. the Specimen tabulated statements are not on the file. The Copy file may be treated as Superseded Returns

18/10

Mysore Chief Commr's Office
P. W. Department
Bangalore 10th October 76

No 2003
3466

From

Lieutenant Colonel F. R. Johnson
Offg Secy to the Chief Commr of Mysore
P. W. Department

To

The Director General
of Telegraphs in India
Simla

Sir,

In continuation of this Office No 1952
3393
of the 3d instant, I have the honor by order, to forward the accompanying copy of statement shewing the lengths of the Telegraph line interfering with the avenue trees on the road from Nellamungalum to Tumkur, being portion of the main line from Bangalore to Bellary.

I have &c
(Signed) F. R. Johnson Lt Coll
Offg Secy to the Chief Commr
of Mysore P. W. D

No 2004
3467

Memorandum

Copy of the above is forwarded to the

the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore, General Department, with copy of Statement in continuation of this Office No. 1957/3401 of the 4th instant. ——

"By Order"

Bangalore
10th October 1916

Lieut Col
Offg Secy to the Chief Commr of Mysore
D. F. D.

Encd Nil.

Statement shewing the length of portion of Telegraph wire which interferes with the Avenue trees on the Tumkur – Bellary Road from 44th to 100th Mile.—

Mile	Furlongs	Length to be removed	Remarks.—
44th	1st	220 yards	The line runs along close to the trees the whole furlong and the trees have been lopped for that purpose, the line is where it was originally placed, the trees also were planted before the line was set up.
45th	4th	220 yards	The line runs along the hedge row and side drains and the trees have been lopp there are also some young avenue plants planted almost underneath the line.—
53rd	1st	220 yards	The line is where it was originally placed, but young trees are growing almost underneath.—
	6th and 7th	440 "	The line is where it was originally placed, but young trees are growing close to it and in time the boughs will come in contact with the line.—
			[Signed] G Dale, Sub Overseer
15th	3rd	120 "	Telegraph line being in the way of Avenue trees—
	6th 7th & 8th	660 "	Do. Do.
16th	1st	220 "	Do. Do.
	2nd	44 "	Do. Do.
74th	3rd	30 "	Do. Do.
	4th	220 "	Do. Do.

wire was changed
es to have been
ompany
Sub Overseer

76th	4th	176	do.	do.
	5th 6th 7th & 8th	880	do.	do.
77th	1st 2nd 3rd & 4th	880	do.	do.
81st	8th	86	do.	do.
82nd	1st	105	do.	do.
87th	5th	100	The wire across the road, through one tree and over another on the opposite side.	
88th	1st	150		
	2nd	100	On the side of Road	
89th	2nd	180		
	6th	90		
	7th	100	do.	
	3rd	160		
95th	4th	140		
	7th	100	do.	
	8th	220		
	5th	220		
96th	6th 7th and 8th	660	do.	
97th	1st	220		
	2nd 3rd 4th & 5th	480	do.	
100th	2nd	20	do.	

She inhabitants of Shrigur informs me that the
after the Avenue trees were planted; this appe
the case as the trees are from 8 to 10 years o

/signed/ J. A. S.

Tumkur
8th September 1876

Ord. No. 6

"True Copy"

Lieut. Colonel
Offg: Secretary to the Chief Commr of Mysore

P. W. Keeffe

/signed/ G. W. White C.E.
Offg: Exe: Engineer
"True Copy. Tumkur Division
/signed/ C. Bowen Capn. R.E.
Offg: Supt: Engr of Mysore
Roads and Buildings Branch

A-80

General- 1876 ... 15505
351

From The Commr

To Nundydg: Division

Secretary to Chief Commissioner,
General Department

Dated 21st November 76

Despatched

Received 22 "

Reg. 23rd "

ENCLOSURES NO

General No. 55 } 1876-77.
No.

This Office No. 320 Genl:
dated 25th November
1875 -

In continuation of the above, has the honor to forward for consideration the accompanying Copy of letter No. 650 of the 11th Instant from the Deputy Commissioner of the Tinnevelly District suggesting the removal of Telegraph poste from the principal

Sent to all the [illegible]
[illegible]
305 12/11/76 [illegible]
[illegible]
See letter [illegible]
224

Sl 26

vicinity of the line of road
to Bellany in places where
the Telegraph wires inter-
fere with Ornamental trees.

Commissioner

No. 650

Tumkur District

Dy. Commissioner's Office

Tumkur 11th November 1876

To

The Commissioner of the

Nundydroog division

Sir,

I have the honor to state that in compliance with the request of the Assistant Superintendent of Telegraphs, I recently inspected the Bellary Road throughout the limits of this District, and have issued instructions for the removal of all date trees which in any way now interfere or are hereafter likely to interfere with the line of wire, and for the lopping of the branches of the avenue trees which at present come in contact with the wire.

2. With regard to the avenue trees, I beg to state that many of these must in course of time interfere with the lines

but it is impossible during the present season of drought to transplant them: many of them are too old to transplant, to say nothing of the money and labor which such a measure would entail. With respect to some of the old trees, it will be necessary for us in many instances to annually lop them, which to a certain extent destroys the symmetry of the tree and prevents its ever reaching its full size. I would therefore respectfully submit for the consideration of the Telegraph Department, the expediency of throwing this line back some yards in places where it materially interferes with the avenue trees

I have &c.

(Signed) E. Tudor

Off: Dy: Commissr.

Copy.

R.H. James. Manager

for Commissioner.